IN THE CLAIMS:

1.   (**Currently Amended**) A method for a speech recognition system to adjust to premature enunciator commands, the method comprising:

activating the speech recognition system;

receiving speech input from a user before the system is ready to receive speech input; ~~and~~

determining that the user has spoken prematurely; and

adjusting the system **after determining that the user has spoken prematurely** to allow for earlier detection of user speech input.

2.   (**Currently Amended**) The method of claim 1, wherein the speech recognition system is activated selectively by the user.

3.   (**Currently Amended**) The method of claim 1, wherein the activation of the speech recognition system is followed by informing the user that the system is ready to receive input and a listening period wherein the speech recognition system is able to receive speech input.

4.   (**Currently Amended**) The method of claim 1, further comprising the speech recognition system **providing a prompt indicating that the system is ready to receive speech input,** receiving **the** user **speech** ~~voice~~ input before the system has started ~~the~~ **a first** listening period **that begins after a delay following the prompt**, ~~determining the user as a premature enunciator,~~ and **thereafter providing a subsequent prompt and** starting ~~the~~ **a subsequent** listening period at **an earlier time relative to its prompt.** ~~an earlier predetermined time interval.~~

5.   (**Currently Amended**) The method of claim 4, wherein the earlier listening period begins 50 to 100 ms before the speech recognition system informs the user of its readiness to receive input.

6. (**Original**) The method of claim 1, wherein the speech recognition system filters sound overlays from user commands.

7. (**Currently Amended**) The method of claim 6, further comprising processing filtered speech input through the speech recognition system.

8. (**Currently Amended**) A computer readable medium storing a computer program for a speech recognition system to adjust to premature enunciator commands comprising:

computer readable code for activating the speech recognition system;

computer readable code for receiving speech input from a user before the system is ready to receive speech input; ~~and~~

computer readable code for determining that the user has spoken prematurely; and

computer readable code for adjusting the system **after determining that the user has spoken prematurely** to allow for earlier detection of user input.

9. (**Currently Amended**) The computer readable medium of claim 8, further comprising computer readable code to activate the speech recognition system selectively by the user.

10. (**Currently Amended**) The computer readable medium of claim 8, further comprising computer readable code for informing the user that the system is ready to receive input, and computer readable code for determining a listening period wherein the speech recognition system is able to receive speech input.

11. (**Currently Amended**) The computer readable medium of claim 8, further comprising computer readable code for the speech recognition system ~~to determine the user as a premature enunciator and~~ to start a listening period at an earlier predetermined time interval.

12. **(Currently Amended)** The computer readable medium of claim 11, further comprising computer readable code to begin the earlier listening period 50 to 100 ms before the speech recognition system informs the user of its readiness to receive input.

13. **(Currently Amended)** The computer readable medium of claim 8, further comprising computer readable code for filtering sound overlays from user commands.

14. **(Currently Amended)** The computer readable medium of claim 8, further comprising computer readable code to process filtered speech input through the speech recognition system.

15. **(Currently Amended)** A system for speech recognition that adjusts to premature enunciator commands, the system comprising:

　　　　means for activating the speech recognition system;

　　　　means for receiving speech input from a user before the system is ready to receive speech input; ~~and~~

　　　　means for determining that the user has spoken prematurely; and

　　　　means for adjusting the system **after determining that the user has spoken prematurely** to allow for earlier detection of user speech input.

16. **(Currently Amended)** The system of claim 15, further comprising means for the user to selectively activate the speech recognition system.

17. **(Currently Amended)** The system of claim 15, wherein the means to activate the speech recognition system comprise means to inform the user that the system is ready to receive input, and means for a listening period wherein the speech recognition system is able to receive speech input.

18. **(Currently Amended)** The system of claim 15, further comprising the means for the speech recognition system to ~~determine the user as a premature enunciator and~~ start the listening period at an earlier predetermined time interval.

19.   **(Currently Amended)** The system of claim 18, further comprising means for the earlier listening period to begin 50 to 100 ms before the speech recognition system informs the user of its readiness to receive input.

20.   **(Currently Amended)** The system of claim 15, further comprising the means for the speech recognition system to filter sound overlays from user commands.

21.   **(New)** A method of using a speech recognition system to adjust to commands of premature enunciators, the method comprising:

  (a)   activating a speech recognition system;

  (b)   indicating to the user that the system is ready to receive speech input;

  (c)   listening for speech input after a predetermined time delay;

  (d)   recognizing that the user has spoken before the system was ready to receive the speech input; and thereafter

  (e)   indicating to the user via a prompt that the system is again ready to receive speech input;

  (f)   starting a listening period before the prompt is complete;

  (g)   receiving the speech input; and

  (h)   filtering the received speech input to remove noise residue due to the prompt.

22.   **(New)** The method of claim 21, wherein the predetermined time delay comprises a temporal pause occurring between indicating that the system is ready to receive speech input and listening for user speech input.

23.   **(New)** The method of claim 21, wherein the starting step (f) begins 50-100ms before the prompt is complete.

24.   **(New)** The method of claim 21, further comprising carrying out a plurality of iterations of steps (a) through (d) prior to steps (e) through (h).

25. (**New**) The method of claim 24, further includes determining whether a user has exceeded an error count associated with the plurality of iterations of steps (a) through (d).